

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00

NSAE-00 INR-10 RSC-01 /030 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:DLRANARD:LM

APPROVED BY EA/K:DLRANARD

SCA/VO - RTENNEY (SUBSTANCE)

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R 072254Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046447

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, JA, KN, KS (RYANG, MEMBO)

SUBJECT: ROK INTEREST IN RYANG VISA APPLICATION

REF: A. OSAKA KOBE 139

B. OSAKA KOBE 72

1. KIM TAE ZHEE, ROK POLITICAL COUNSELOR, CAME IN TO SEE RANARD (EA/K) ON MARCH 7 UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO ASK THAT WE RECONSIDER ISSUING VISA TO MEMBO RYANG. ACCORDING TO KIM, ROK INVESTIGATION HAD INDICATED THAT RYANG WAS LEADER OF NORTH KOREAN SCIENTISTS ASSOCIATION IN JAPAN AND INFLUENTIAL MEMBER OF CHOSEN SOREN, AS WELL AS DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT OF NORTH KOREA-JAPAN TRADE ASSOCIATION. KIM STATED THAT VISIT BY RYANG TO U.S. WOULD HAVE UNFAVORABLE IMPACT ON U.S.-ROK RELATIONSHIPS. KIM WAS INFORMED THAT INQUIRY RELATED TO CONSIDERATION OF RYANG'S VISA APPLICATION HAD REVEALED NO SUCH DEROGATORY INFORMATION. HE WAS TOLD IN GENERAL TERMS WHAT OUR OWN INVESTIGATION HAD REVEALED (REF B) AND THAT ON THE FACE OF IT, SO FAR AS WE COULD DETERMINE, RYANG WAS COMING TO
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THE U.S. FOR PURELY SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE PURPOSES. BASED

ON WHAT WE HAD SEEN ABOUT RYANG'S BACKGROUND THERE APPEARED
NO REASON TO DENY HIM A VISA. KIM WAS INFORMED WITHOUT
COMMITMENT THAT WE WOULD GIVE THIS CASE FURTHER
CONSIDERATION.

2. KIM'S COMMENTS ABOUT RYANG'S BACKGROUND APPEAR TO BE
AT DIRECT VARIANCE WITH INFORMATION PROVIDED BY RYANG
TO OSAKA KOBE (PARA 6 REF B). WE WOULD VERY MUCH
APPRECIATE CONSULATE MAKING ONE FURTHER CHECK OF RECORDS
OR OTHER SOURCE MATERIAL TO CLARIFY IF AT ALL POSSIBLE
ALLEGATIONS REGARDING RYANG'S BACKGROUND. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, VISAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE046447
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DLRANARD:LM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740360/aaaacdnk.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. OSAKA KOBE 139
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <28 JAN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROK INTEREST IN RYANG VISA APPLICATION
TAGS: PFOR, CVIS, JA, KN, KS, (RYANG, MEMBO)
To: OSAKA KOBE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005